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THE COMIC READER

98

JUNE 1973.

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Volume #1, Issue #98, June, 1973

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In the U.S., Canada or Mexico:
Single copy: 40¢
3 issues for $1.00
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Payment for all orders must be in U.S. Funds, and ALL CHECKS AND/OR MONEY ORDERS MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO PAUL LEVITZ.

AD RATES

Ad space is available for $20 per full page advertisement. All ad space is sold out, however, for the rest of 1973 and all of 1974 due to long term advertising contracts. Reservations for 1975 are not being accepted at the present time.

I reserve the right to reject any ad, or delay its publication as neccessary.

BACK ISSUES

#74, 75, 76, 77, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, and 97 are all available. All issues except #92 are 35¢@. #92 is 50¢.

DEALERS RATES

The Comic Reader is available at liberal wholesale rates to any dealer who wishes to place a regular monthly order for 25 copies or more. Prices quoted on request.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

A change of address form must be filed two weeks before you move. Students may request specific issues to be sent to different addresses.

PRINT RUN THIS MONTH: 3,000

The cover of Crazy #1 sans type and logo. The mag appears in the Coming Comics section.

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MARVEL

First off, a round of cancellations:

Reno Jones, Gunhawk goes with #7. Loose ends from this book will be wound up in a new title described later in this feature. Syd Shores moves over to the black & white mags.

The Power of Warlock goes with #8. All the threads tie together in the last issue, leading towards a fantastic climax in a non-existant 9th issue. New Gods lives! Mike Friedrich moves over to a new strip (to be revealed next issue), Bob Brown shifts to Sub-Mariner.

Red Wolf ends with #9. No loose ends, and Shores' future is described above.

Doc Savage probably ends with #8. It is possible that this mag will survive. No loose ends. Tony Isabella would shift to new mystery stuff, and the book was between artists anyway.

Combat Kelly ends with #9. Everybody gets run over by a truck. Gary Friedrich moves over to Son of Satan, Dick Ayers to a new strip (next issue details, I hope).

Haunt of Horror as of #3. If sales were good the mag will be brought back, but technical difficulties are causing Marvel to wait on it for a while.

Monster Madness with #3. This one will probably be back in a new format.

Long gone, and I forgot: Li'L Kids with Calvin and Gunslinger. Non-existant issues were listed in #96's Coming Comics column.

Now the good news:

Western Team-Up will feature the Rawhide Kid and rotating partners. The Gunhawk mess will be solved in this one. #1 features Rawhide & The Dakota Kid...it's an inventory story from before RK went all-reprint. Larry Leiber script & art.

Ready to be confused? Marvel Feature (Thing &) is cancelled. Marvel Double Feature is a new reprint mag starring Capt America and Iron Man.

Marvel Two-In-One is another new mag. It will feature "Thing &" teams.

Hero For Hire is down to bi-monthly and is now "Luke Cage, POWERMAN." The name Powerman was the original title of the book, but former publisher Martin Goodman turned it down.

Brother Voodoo (Strange Tales) and Frankenstein's Monster have been decreased in frequency. Both remain monthly for the summer, then go bi-monthly. Presumably they'll be back to monthly next summer.

Don Heck is probably taking over the art chores on Ka-Zar. Mike Royer may be doing one issue.

Rich Buckler is now doing the breakdowns on The Fantastic Four.

The new art team on Spider-Man is Ross Andru and Jim Mooney. Romita only inked one issue.

King Kull is now Kull The Destroyer. Kull is dethroned in the series. Thomas is back at the scripter's typewriter.

Conan is due for a three or four part story beginning in #32. Roy Thomas is adapting Norvell W. Page's Prester John novel "Flamewinds" to fit the Conan saga.

Werewolf and Dracula are having a cross-over story by Marv Wolfman and Mike Ploog. Dracula is also making a guest shot in Frankenstein.

Gil Kane is doing a pair of fill-in issues of Werewolf By Night.

Red Sonja will not start until Savage Tales #4 as plans stand. A double page preview will appear in #3, though.

The current plotline involving Reed and Sue and Franklin in The Fantastic Four will be resolved before the year is out. The wind-up begins in #140.

Upcoming Team-Up stories: Spider-Man and Sub-Mariner (not by Bill Everett, as previously reported. Bill was not able to finish this one before his death) and Spider-Man and The Ghost Rider.

The Thing meets Iron Man meanwhile in a Mike Friedrich/Jim Starlin ish.

Man-Thing will appear three times a year in Monsters Unleashed by Tony Isabella and Frank Brunner.

Captain Marvel is not being killed, contrary to many rumors. The book is picking up as of the first few Starlin issues and is holding on.

Satana is the title of a new feature coming in Vampire Tales. Steve Englehart and Esteban Maroto will do the honors. A four-page intro by Roy Thomas and John Romita gives a vague idea of the character, but Englehart promises a very different treatment.

The contents of Crazy are set, just in time for it to appear in this issue's Coming Comics section.

Tony Isabella and Billy Graham collaborated on the scripting of an issue of Luke Cage. Len Wein is the new scripter on Cage when it becomes Powerman.

The second issue of FOOM is in the process of being completed. No word on an exact release date.

Morbius will star in a new series in a monster title. Creative chores are scheduled to be handled by Don McGregor, Mike Friedrich and a new Dan Adkins discovery--Paul Gulacy. A Gulacy cover spotlighting Morbius will probably appear on the September Comic Reader.

Syd Shores, a Marvel staff artist for many years, died on Sunday June 3rd as the result of a sudden heart attack. Syd's credits include Captain America in the Golden Age, The Black Rider, Red Wolf, and many inking assignments. Syd was one of the most dependable artists in the industry and his talents will be sorely missed. He leaves behind a wife and two daughters.

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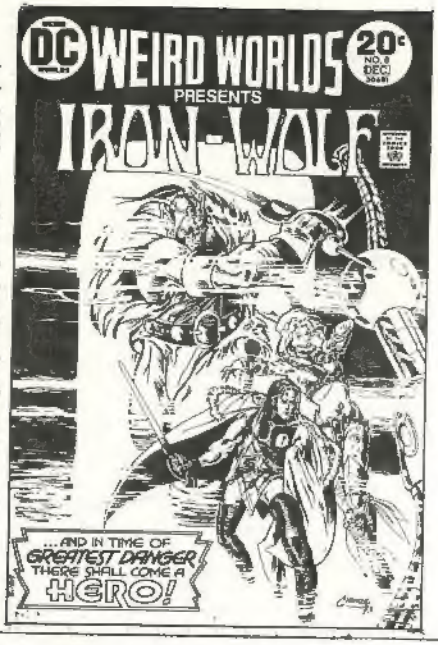

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NATIONAL

It's that time of year again, when National re-organizes their line, shifts editorial assignments, and prepares their annual production schedule. A lot of changes are taking place, and I'll have full details for you in #99, which will be mailed out about July 9th. This is because everything is being kept under wraps until the July Convention. Meanwhile, I'll give a few predictions and general thoughts as well as some of the changes.

The $1 books will probably continue in 1974, as a House of Mystery $1 edition was announced for release. Joe Orlando will edit that issue, and it will contain a number of the stories from his first few issues of HOM, including at least one or two by Neal Adams.

The Super-Spectaculars are also a sure survivor, and it would not surprise me if their number was increased. Before the 25¢ format collapsed, National had been planning a substantial increase in the 50¢ line and I think that'll emerge soon. My personal feeling is that the 50¢ size may be the next format for most color comics.

DC
THE STRANGEST STORIES EVER TOLD!
BLACK MAGIC
20¢
COME IN! THERE'S NO-BODY HERE TO HURT YOU, NO-BODY... ONLY YOUR UNCLE HUGO, THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY

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Sword of Sorcery definitely does not appear on next year's schedule. #5 will be the last issue.

Some titles will be cancelled, however, the superhero and mystery titles continue to prosper. This is being done to make way for new things.

All these changes, by the way, would probably take place with the January cover-dated books, on sale in October.

No more facts are available now, so let's sit back and wait for next issue.

ADVENTURE COMICS DEPT. Shelly Mayer is still ill, so the Black Orchid is stuck on a shelf. Anyone wishing to send him a card can send it to me and I'll forward it. The thought would be appreciated I'm sure. Arnold Drake and Luis Dominguez have done an Adventurers' Club story for the back of #430.

TEAM-UPS DEPT. Batman due to meet The Demon in Brave & Bold #109 and then Wildcat in #110. Over in World's Finest, a Superman, Batman & Sons story is being readyed for #221.

SUPER-SPECTACULAR DEPT. "The Marvel Family Curse" by Schaffenberger has been dropped from the Shazam issue.

The line up for the Witching Hour issue (on sale in October) is:

A complete reprint of Witching Hour #1, with intros by Alex Toth and stories by Pat Boyette, Jack Sparling and Toth.

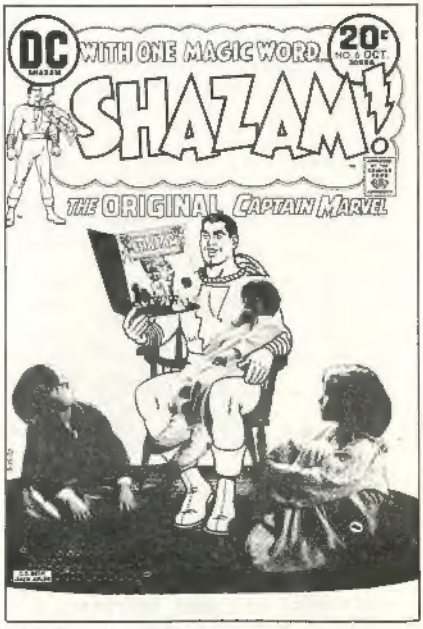
A previously unpublished mystery story done for an unknown editor in the sixties, and written off National's inventory.

Johnny Peril in "The Demon In The Mirror" from Sensation Mystery.

About eight other mystery stories, dating from about 1950 on up.

Nelson Bridwell was the editor.

THOSE DARING YOUNG MEN IN THEIR FLYING MACHINES DEPT. Archie Goodwin reports that Robert Kanigher and Frank Thorne are hard at work on an Enemy Ace-Balloon Buster battle story which will run in the back of three issues of Star Spangled War Stories. The trilogy isn't finished or scheduled yet, but it will probably appear in mid-winter. The decision to do the story was prompted by the beautiful job Thorne did on a Kanigher's Gallery of War filler.



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Golden Age Spectre artist Bernard Baily is the new regular artist on the Spawn of Frankenstein series.

MOVING DEPT. National is finally moving on July 27th!!! The new address is:

75 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10019

and they're on the sixth floor of the Warner Communications Building.

SUMMER VACATION? Mike Fleisher, Joe Orlando's two-day-a-week assistant editor decided that he wanted the summer off, so in a fit of irrationality TCR editor Paul Levitz decided to sacrifice his vacation to pitch in. Another new wage slave is Mike Uslan, the guru of the Indiana University correspondance comic book course, who's spending his summer helping Sol Harrison co-ordinate special projects like the apprenticeship program. Both fans will be gone by the first knell of the fall term. Elliot Maggin will be entering the Columbia School of Journalism this fall for graduate studies. He will, however, continue writing as many comics as before... maybe even more.

Cross-over department: Nubia will be appearing in an issue of Supergirl.

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Coming Comics

COMING COMICS is a directory of upcoming releases from the various comic art publishers. The "on sale" dates are culled from the publishers' production schedules, and may vary in your area, depending on the perversions of your local wholesaler. The following is the format of each listing:

TITLE (Number, cover date). A description of all known contents, credits for the features in this order: writer, artist, inker. (On sale date) (Price if not 20¢)

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VAMPIRE TALES (2, October). Morbius in "The Blood Sacrifice Of Amanda Saint" by Don McGregor, Rich Buckler (breakdowns), and Pablo Marcos. "Five Claws To Typhon" by Gardner Fox and Jesus Blasco. An introductory adventure of Satana by Roy Thomas and John Romita. "The Praying Mantis Principle" by Don McGregor, Rich Buckler, Carlos Garzon, and Klaus Janson. Articles are: "A Vampire By Any Other Name" by Doug Moench and "A Generation Of Vampires" by Chris Claremont, plus movie reviews by Carla Joseph and Mark Evanier. Reprints: "At The Stroke Of Midnight" (the Jim Steranko story from Tower #1, with new zip-a-tone work by JS), and "Bewitched" with art by Mannie Banks. (7/3) (75¢)

THE OUTLAW KID (18, October). (7/3)

SHIELD (5, October). "Beware The Deadly Dreadnought" and "Death Trap" from Strange Tales #154 & 155. Credits: Roy Thomas & Jim Steranko script, Jim Steranko art. (7/3)

CHILI (25, October). (7/3)

WHERE MONSTERS DWELL (24, October). (7/3)

WESTERN GUNFIGHTERS (18, October). Kid Colt, Black Rider, Apache Kid. (7/3)

MONSTERS ON THE PROWL (26, October). (7/3)

MILLIE THE MODEL (205, October). (7/3)

MARVEL SPECTACULAR (3, October). "Thunder In The Netherworld" from Thor #130, by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta, plus a Tales of Asgard filler. (7/3)

DAREDEVIL (104, October). DD and The Black Widow run across Kraven The Hunter on their way to the secret of their enemy's identity! Script by Steve Gerber, pencils by Don Heck, inks by Sal Trapani. (7/3)

MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN (27, October). Rawhide Kid, Two Gun Kid, Matt Slade Gunfighter. (7/3)

MARVEL SUPER HEROES (39, October). Sub-Mariner in "Like A Beast At Bay" by Stan Lee, Gene Colan and Dick Ayers and The Hulk in "Rampage In The City" by the bullpen crew. Both from Tales To Astonish #84. (7/3)

KID COLT OUTLAW (175, October). (7/3)

IRON MAN (63, October). Back to Detroit as Iron Man begins a five part storyline, centered around the villainy of the Squadron Sinister's Dr. Spectrum and his thinking Power Prism. Meanwhile, Tony's after Roxie and Happy's after Pepper and... Mike Friedrich, George Tuska and Mike Esposito. (7/3)

INCREDIBLE HULK (168, October). Betty, still crazed from her husband's death, is led by Modok into stepping in front of gamma rays and becoming--The Harpy. Possessed of hellbolts from her fingertips, she downs the Hulk, who cannot hurt one he considers his friend. Script by Steve Englehart, art by Herb Trimpe and Jack Abel. (7/3)

GHOST RIDER (2, October). The Ghost Rider is brought to hell by Satan and the Witch Woman. He renounces his mortality in this story by Gary Friedrich, Jim Mooney and Syd Shores. (7/3)

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (125, October). "Wolfpact" continues Spider-Man's battle with J. Jonah Jameson's werewolf son. On the sidelines, the Parker-Watson-Osborn triange is explored. Script by Gerry Conway, art by Ross Andru and John Romita. (7/10)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (166, October). SHIELD comes under the control of Dum-Dum while Cap continues his war with the Yellow Claw. Plus, Peggy comes to NY because she can't bear being separated from Cap, and he finds out the denouement of his hotel manager's blackmail threat. (7/10) Steve Englehart, Sal Buscema, Frank McLaughlin. (7/10)

VAULT OF EVIL (5, October). (7/10)

FRANKENSTEIN (6, October). The Monster returns to Castle Frankenstein to find the last descendant of Dr. Frankenstein. Script by Gary Friedrich, art by Mike Ploog (this issue was shot from Ploog's pencils). (7/10)

THE X-MEN (84, October). "Mekano Lives" from #36 by Roy Thomas, Ross Andru and George Roussos. (7/10)

DOC SAVAGE (7, October). Part one of "Brand Of The Werewolf" by Gardner Fox, Tony Isabella, Ross Andru and Frank Springer. (7/10)

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TWO GUN KID (113, October). (7/10)

STRANGE TALES (170, October). The conclusion of the origin of Brother Voodoo as he passes through his "Baptism of Fire" on his way to death. Script by Len Wein, art by Gene Colan and Dan Adkins. (7/10)

SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION (13, October). Sgt. Fury in "Too Small To Fight, Too Young To Die" from #15 by Stan Lee, Dick Ayers, and Steve Ditko. (7/10)

SUB-MARINER (66, October). "Rise, Thou Killer Whale" brings back Orka and teams up with the She-Beast. Steve Gerber, Don Heck and Don Perlin. The final Tale of Atlantis is "The Sword And The Throne" in which Kamuu receives a prophesy from the surface world. Steve Gerber, Jim Mooney and Joe Sinnott. (7/10)

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION (14, October). "Vengeance Is Ours" pits the Avengers against the Swordsman in a story from #20. Stan Lee, Don Heck and Wally Wood. (7/10)

THOR (216, October). The end of the God Jewel plot and the beginning of a series about The Colonizers and an extra-galactic menace. "When Chaos Rules" by Gerry Conway, John Buscema and Jim Mooney. (7/10)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (45, October). "And One Shall Save Him" from Fantastic Four #62 by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (7/10)

CRAZY (1, October). "Kung Fooey" by Stu Schwartzberg and Mike Ploog, "The Upseidown Adventure" by Len Wein, Ross Andru and Vic Martin, "The History And Evolution Of The Moose" by Bob Foster (the first in a series by the man behind Myron Moose). "An Independant Survey Today Announced" is a Jean Shepard article on the future of cars with Don McGregor layouts and Herb Trimpe illustrations. "The Great American Dream" is a photo fumetti story, written by Marv Wolfman, photographed by Michele Wolfman (lay-outs by Marie Severin) starring Dick Giordano, Neal Adams and Gayle Landers. Articles We'd by Crazy To Print include The Brighter Side Of Racial Violence, Shush-Ups, and a photo story featuring Roy Thomas, Jean Thomas and Steve Englehart in bed. Script on this section by Roy Thomas. The major feature is a section on the future. Intro by Harlan Ellison, illustrated by Basil Wolverton. A future newspaper features contributions by Gerry Conway, Tony Isabella, Steve Skeates, Carla Joseph, Dave Hunt and Marie Severin. Front cover by Kelly Freas, back cover is a Bode Junkwaffel story. Edited by Marv Wolfman and Roy Thomas. (7/10) (40¢)

MONSTERS UNLEASHED (3, October). In this issue: "The Death Dealing Mannikin" by Kit Pearson, Tony Isabella & Win Mortimer. "Birthright" by Roy Thomas, Gil Kane & Ralph Reese. "The Cold Of The Uncaring Moon" by Steve Skeates, George Tuska and Klaus Janson, a werewolf story. Reprints include the first Man-Thing story by Roy Thomas-Gerry Conway-Gray Morrow, "The Cyclops" by Jack Davis, and "Swamp Girl." Articles by Martin Pasko, Carla Joseph, and Don Thompson. Cover by Neal Adams. (7/17)

FEAR (17, October). The Man-Thing in "It Came Out Of The Sky" which introduces a new hero/villain named Wundarr. Highly recommended by author Steve Gerber as one of his best scripts. Art credits: Val Mayerick and Sal Trapani. (7/17)

THE AVENGERS (116, October). Chapters 2 &3 of the Clash. The Avengers' suspicions of the Defenders grow, but the Ds are oblivious as they pursue their quest for the Evil Eye. Then Loki switches sides , tells the assemblers what's up, and the battle begins. First: The Surfer vs. The Vision and Wanda. Steve Englehart, Bob Brown, Mike Esposito. (7/17)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (31, October). Roy Thomas, an avowed hater of magic sword stories, contributes his version to history. "The Shadow In The Tomb" fills the spot in the Conan chronicles left empty by the unavailability of "Thing In The Crypt." Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chua. (7/17)

COMBAT KELLY (9, October). The end of the line for Kelly. His crew is killed and his mag is cancelled. Gary Friedrich and Dick Ayers. (7/17)

HERO FOR HIRE (14, October). Rackham, Cage's nemesis from #1, comes to New York and meets Phil Fox. Together, they plan vengeance on Cage, involving Claire Temple. But several wild cards complicate their plans. Plot by Englehart, script by Englehart and Billy Graham, art by Billy Graham. Part one of two. (7/17)

RAWHIDE KID (116, October). (7/17)

TOMB OF DRACULA (13, October). Drac is hunted down and murdered. Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan, Tom Palmer. (7/17)

SUPERNATURAL THRILLERS (6, October). The Headless Horseman Rides Again! in a book-length story by Gary Friedrich and George Tuska (this issue was shot from pencils). (7/17)

GUNHAWKS (7, October). Last issue by Gardner Fox and Syd Shores. (7/17)

MARVEL TALES (46, October). "Wings In The Night" from Spider-Man #63, Stan Lee, John Romita, Don Heck, and Mike Esposito. (7/17)

ASTONISHING TALES (20, October). Ka-Zar and Victorius have it out for the final time as the Super-Soldier story winds up. Mike Friedrich, Marie Severin & Jack Abel. (7/17)

* *

WARLOCK (8, October). All sorts of threads tie together at the end of this one, leading to a stunning climax next issue--only there won't BE a next issue! Mike Friedrich, Bob Brown, Tom Sutton. (7/24)

DEFENDERS (9, October). The Ds are determined to get the Evil Eye despite opposition from the As and war is declared. Two battles: Iron Man vs. Hawkeye and Dr. Strange vs. Black Panther and Mantis. Steve Englehart, Sal Buscema. (7/24)

SGT. FURY (115, October). (7/24)

OUR LOVE STORY (25, October). (7/24)

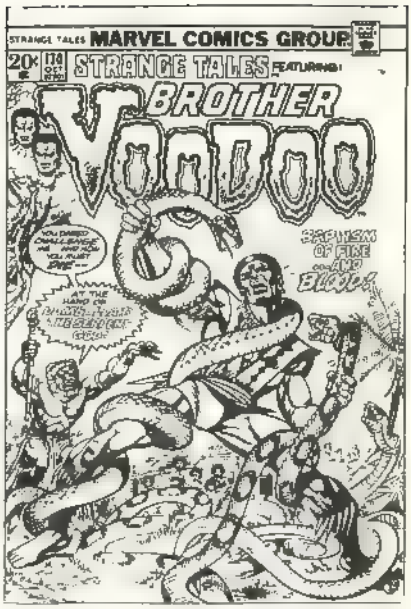
MARVEL SPOTLIGHT (12, October). The Son Of Satan premieres, complete with Ghost Rider cameo. Gary Friedrich, Herb Trimpe. (7/24)

MARVEL PREMIERE (11, October). A reprint issue with a sandwich of new material concluding Shuma Gorath. Two Ditko reprints, new stuff by Englehart & Brunner. (7/24)

FANTASTIC FOUR (139, October). The Miracle Man story winds up with "Target:Tomorrow." Plus more on Reed & Sue & The Negative Zone. Gerry Conway, John Buscema, Joe Sinnott. (7/24)

MARVEL TEAM-UP (14, October). Spidey & Subby vs. Tiger Shark and Dr. Dorcas. Len Wein, Gil Kane & Wayne Howard. (7/24)

WEREWOLF BY NIGHT (10, October). Part one of "Terror Under The Earth" by Gerry Conway and Tom Sutton, pitting the wolf against some geeks. (7/24)



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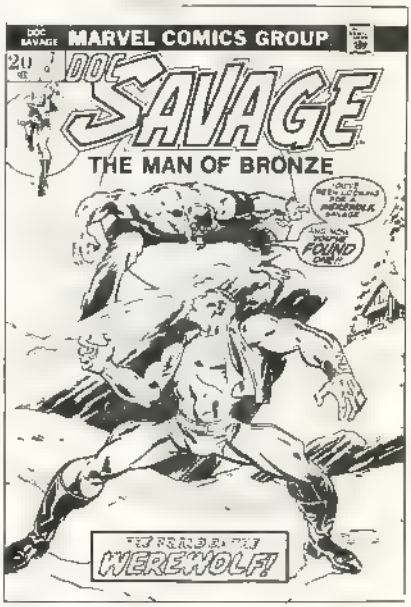

DC COMING COMICS

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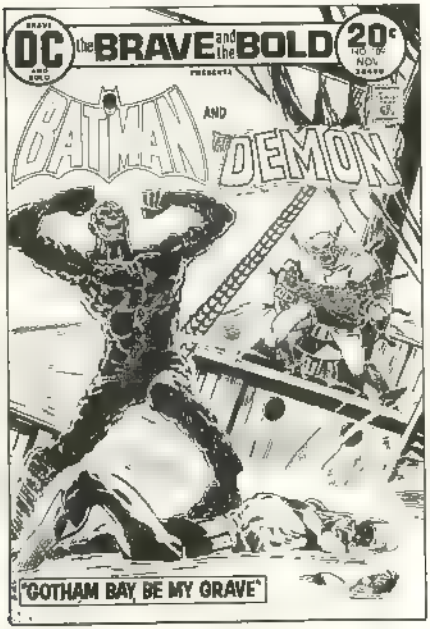
OUR ARMY AT WAR (261, October). A fill-in issue to allow Russ Heath to catch up to his deadline. Sgt. Rock and Easy Co. in "The Medal Nobody Wanted" a reprint with art by Russ Heath. USS Stevens in "Today Is Tomorrow" by Sam Glanzman, plus a diorama entitled Ariel Dragnet. Cover by Joe Kubert. (7/3)



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GHOSTS (19, October). In this issue: "The Body In Mystic Lake," "The Phantom's Invisable Clue," and "Dead Is My Darling." (7/3)

FALLING IN LOVE (143, November). (7/3)

MISTER MIRACLE (16, November). Shilo Norman encounters "Super-Trouble" in an unusual world of bug-things, while Mr. Miracle and Big Barda remain on the side-lines this issue. Script and pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. Cover by Kirby. (7/3)

SUPERMAN (268, October). Batgirl returns for a guest appearance as Clark Kent is charged with revealing government secrets on a "Wild Weekend In Washington." Script by Elliot Maggin, pencils by Curt Swan and inks by Bob Oksner. The World Of Krypton takes a look at "A Tale Of Time And Tide" with a story by Elliot Maggin, art by Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. Cover by Nick Cardy. (7/5)

THE PHANTOM STRANGER (27, November). A new look PS, as an entirely new staff takes over. Arnold Drake and Gerry Talaoc begin their PS careers with the story of "Dr. Zorn:Soul Master," a doctor with unusual treatment methods. The Spawn of Frankenstein in "The Terror Of Compassion" by Steve Skeates and Bernard Baily. (7/5)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (109, November). Batman meets The Demon in "Gotham Bay Be My Grave" by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. Cover by Jim Aparo. (7/5)

WONDER WOMAN (208, November). Two more old style WW adventures... "The Titanic Trials" (continued from last issue) features the unheralded return of Steve Trevor, and "Chessmen of Death" a space-adventure. Scripts by Bob Kanigher, art by Ric Estrada and Vince Colletta. (7/5)

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DC SUPER SPECTACULAR (21, October). SUPERBOY stars in a collection of teen super-hero adventures:

The Legion of Super-Heroes in "The Super Moby Dick Of Space" from Adventure #332, the story in which Lightning Lad lost his arm.

The Teen Titans in "The 1,001 Dooms Of Mister Twister" from Brave And Bold #54 (actually a Robin-Kid Flash-Aqualad adventure which led to the creation of the TT).

Superboy in "The Superboy Revenge Squad" (an early Pete Ross story from SB #94), "The Super Giant Of Smallville" from SB #56, and "The Miracle Plane" from Adventure #117 which accurately predicted the VTOL in detail.

Supergirl in "Lena Thorul, Jungle Princess" from Action#313, in which Lena learned that she was Luthor's sister. Art by Jim Mooney.

And from the Golden Age, Kid Eternity in "The Beagle," the story of a villain who has an investigative reporter murdered. From Kid Eternity #9.

Cover by Nick Cardy. (7/10)

KAMANDI (10, October). A "Killer Germ" is loose in the Tracking Site, while the Misfit (the last man in the Site) tells Kamandi his life story. Script & pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. Cover by Kirby. (7/10)

G.I. COMBAT (165, October). The Haunted Tank in "The Waiting Game" by Archie Goodwin and Sam Glanzman, plus "Truce" by Don Kaar and Adolfo Buylla, and a Bob Kanigher's Gallery Of War story--"Pathfinder" illoed by Ken Barr. (7/10)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (218, October). In this issue: "An Ice Place To Visit" and "The Abominable Ivy." Both scripts by Mike Fleisher and Russell Carley, art by Frank Thorne and Gerry Talaoc, respectively. (7/10)

LOIS LANE (134, October). A book-length story featuring the bottle city of Kandor..."Stolen--Ten Million Lives." Script by Cary Bates, pencils by John Rosenberger, and inks by Vince Colletta. (7/12)

THE UNEXPECTED (151, October). In this issue: "Sorry, I'm Not Ready To Die" (script by George Kashdan, art by Ernie Chua), "Act Of Vengeance" (script by Carl Wessler, art by E. R. Cruz), and "Grave In The Sky" (script by George Kashdan, art by Alfred Alcala). Cover by Nick Cardy. (7/12)

THE WITCHING HOUR (35, October). In this issue: "The Dread Of Night" (script by Carl Wessler, art by Luis Dominquez), "Cry In Car 13" (script by Carl Wessler, art by Norm Maurer), and "Child Of Evil" (script by George Kashdan, art by Lee Elias). (7/12)

YOUNG LOVE (106, November). (7/12)

THE SHADOW (1, November). The greatest of the pulp heroes returns in a brand-new series of adventures, set in the nineteen-thirties. "The Doom Puzzle" by Denny O'Neil and Mike Kaluta sets the tone for the series. Cover by Kaluta, printed in TCR #96. (7/12)

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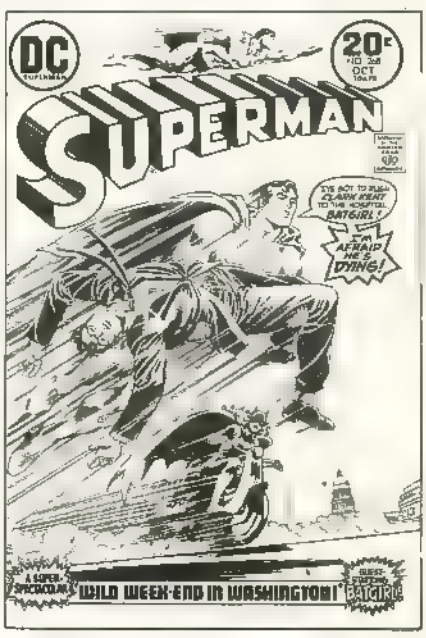
KORAK, SON OF TARZAN (54, November). Korak's search for Meriem continues as he encounters "Blood Brothers" in a new story by Robert Kanigher and Murphy Anderson. Carson of Venus ventures "Into The Land Of Noobol" in a story by Mike Kaluta. Cover by Joe Kubert. (7/17)



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JIMMY OLSEN (160, October). Jimmy invades a haunted castle to investigate "The Secret Of Harpy Castle." "Shadow From The Grave" solves the mystery of Lena Lawrence (try and guess who she is before the issue comes out). Both stories are scripted by Leo Dorfman and illustrated by Kurt Schaffenberger. (7/17)

WEIRD WAR TALES (18, October). In this issue: "Captain Dracula" by Arnold Drake and Tony DeZuniga and "Whim Of A Phantom" by Shelly Mayer and Gerry Talaoc. (7/17)

SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE (14, October). In this issue: "The Man And The Snake" (an Ambrose Bierce adaptation by Nelson Bridwell, illustrated by Alfred Alcala, highly recommended), "The Roommate" (art by Mike Sekowsky), and "The Glass Nightmare" (script by Mike Fleisher, art continuity by Russell Carley, art by Alfred Alcala). Cover by Luis Dominquez. (7/17)

STRANGE ADVENTURES (244, November). This issue's Adam Strange reprint is "The Powerless Weapons of Adam Strange" by Gardner Fox, Carmine Infantino, and Joe Giella from Mystery In Space #84. The issue is rounded out by "Prisoner Of The Parakeets" by John Broome, Sharp and Sachs. Reprinted cover by Murphy. Anderson. (7/19)

SHAZAM! (6, October). Sivana returns with a plot to slow down Captain Marvel in "Better Late Than Never" by Denny O'Neil and C.C. Beck. "Dexter Knox And His Electric Grandmother" by Elliot Maggin and C.C.Beck is the other new story. The reprint is the first of two parts of a Marvel Family story by Kurt Schaffenberger: "The Man Who Changed The World." Cover art by C.C. Beck, photo background by Jack Adler. (7/19)

OUR FIGHTING FORCES (145, November). The Losers and a company of dead French legionnaires must hold a fort against a Nazi attack in "A Flag For The Losers" by Bob Kanigher and John Severin. "Feast Of Caterpillars is a Vietnam story by John David Warner and Ric Estrada. Cover by Joe Kubert. (7/19)

PREZ (2, November). Bobby Fishhead stars in "The Invasion of The Chessmen." Script by Joe Simon, art by Jerry Grandinetti & Craig Flessel. (7/19)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (112, October). In this issue: "The Witch Doctor's Magic Cloak" (script by Mike Fleisher, art continuity by Russell Carley, art by R. Nebres), and "The Case Of The Demon Spawn" (by Gerry Conway and Luis Dominquez). (7/19)

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SUPERBOY/THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES (198, October). The most dangerous foes the Legion ever faced return in a book-length episode with a brand new super weapon. Meet "The Fatal Five Who Twisted Time" in a story by Cary Bates and Dave Cockrum (and watch for some crazy cameos). Cover by Nick Cardy. (7/24)

FORBIDDEN TALES OF DARK MANSION (13, November). Denny O'Neil takes over as editor with this issue. The book's format remains the same, but you may see a few new writers on the stories. This issue: "The Man Who Waxed And Waned" (script by Mike Fleisher, art by Alfred Alcala), and "The Honor Of France" (script by Don Karr, art by Gil Kane and Wayne Howard). Both stories are from the NPP inventory. (7/24)

G.I. WAR TALES (4, November). Last issue. Contents: "The Soldiers Of The High Wire" (art by Bernie Krigstein), "Four Legged Tank" (art by Russ Heath), and "Medal For A Marine" (art by Mort Drucker). (7/24)

BLACK MAGIC (1, November). Reprints from the old Simon & Kirby edited Black Magic mag. This issue: "Maniac," "Head Of The Family" and "The Greatest Horror Of Them All". (7/24)

BATMAN (252, October). Jason Bard guest stars in "The Spook's Master Stroke" by Frank Robbins, Irv Novick and Dick Giordano. Robin solos in the story of "The King From Canarsie" by Elliot Maggin, Dick Dillin and Dick Giordano. (7/26)

CHAMPION SPORTS (1, November). A new bi-monthly mag edited by Joe Simon spotlighting the adventures of young athletes. In this issue: "The Kid Who Beat The Oakland As," "The Little Racer" and "The First Hurdle." Cover printed in #94. (7/26)

LOVE STORIES (152, November). (7/26)

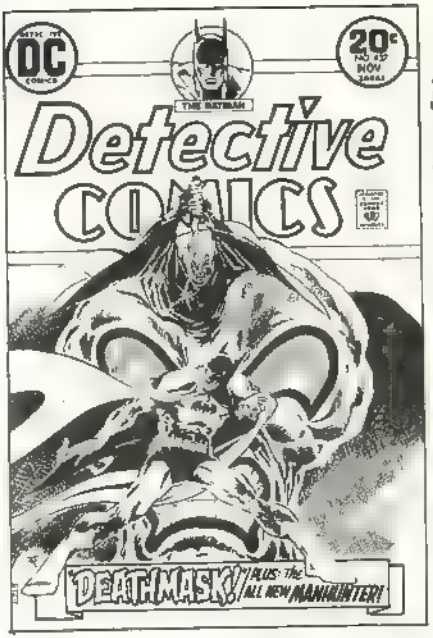
THE DEMON (13, October). Concluding the Baron Von Evilstein story is "The Night Of The Demon." Script & pencils by Jack Kirby, inks by Mike Royer. Cover by Kirby. (7/26)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (174, October). The Unknown Soldier begins a two-part adventure which takes him to a gun emplacement deep in Nazi territory. "Operation:Snafu" is by Frank Robbins and Jack Sparling. A USS Stevens adventure, "King Of The Hill," rounds out the issue (script/art by Sam Glanzman). (7/26)

* *

WEIRD MYSTERY TALES (8, November). In this issue: "Final Take" (plot by Michael Pellowsky, script by Bob Kanigher, art by Tony DeZuniga), "Portrait Of Terror" (script by Jack Oleck, art by Bernard Baily), and "An Evil Pair" (script by John Albano, art by Ernesto Patricio). (7/31)

SUPERGIRL (?, October). Zatanna and Supergirl team-up in the story of "The Sinister Snowman," a book-length adventure by Cary Bates, Art Saaf and Vince Colletta, in which they clash over the rescue of a man they both love. (7/31)



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DETECTIVE COMICS (437, November). Archie Goodwin takes over the editorial ship-of-state and leads Detec off in new directions. "De:th Mask" is the Batman story (script by Archie Goodwin, art by Jim Aparo, both new regulars on this series) and the updated Manhunter, is introduced in "Himilayean Incident" by Goodwin and Walt Simonson. Cover by Jim Aparo. (7/31)

ACTION COMICS (428, October). No one has heard from Superman in 10 years so the magic question is "Whatever Happened To Superman?" in a story by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson. Green Arrow stars in "The Plot To Kill Black Canary" by Elliot Maggin and Dick Giordano. (7/31)

TARZAN OF THE APES (224, October). A new story by Joe Kubert set in Opar: "Death Is My Brother" features the ape-man returning to the hidden city to save La from the murderous High Priest of the beast men. (7/31)

(Also on sale that week, but listed in the next issue of The Comic Reader:
Our Army At War #262, Nov.
Ghosts #20, Nov.
Justice League #108, Dec.
Weird Worlds #8, Dec.)

MORROW EDITOR AT ARCHIE

Archie Comics will be unveiling a line of mystery/adventure titles this summer under the brand name of "Red Circle Comics Group."

Gray Morrow is the editor of these magazines. The mags are a radical departure for Archie, and will feature many artists and writers new to the Archie mags. Gray will be doing a lot of the art and writing himself.

The first magazine is a revived version of "Sorcery" (formerly Sabrina's Chilling Tales Of...) which will be out early this summer. Gray edited, wrote, pencilled, inked, lettered, and colored the entire issue.

WARREN

Many new things are happening but no details can be released until the July 4th Convention (that's getting to be a very familiar situation).

Coming Comics

VAMPIRELLA #27. Annual time, as a selection of stories from previous issues of Vampi (art by Maroto, Bea, Dube, Mas, Jones and Wood) backs up a new story of the vampiress--an eight page color episode entitled "Return Trip" (script by Tontain, art by Jose Gonzalez). (7/17)

CREEPY #56. In this issue: "In My Father's House" (Moench & Auraleon), "Innsmouth Festival" (Jacobson & Abellan), "The Way Of All Flesh" (Moench & Bea), "Bell Of Kuansai" (Henderson & Munes) and an eight page story written, drawn, and colored by Richard Corben -- "Lycanklutz." (7/19)

EERIE #51. Annual time once more, another collection of stories from previous issues. (7/26)

GOLD KEY, HEATH

Gold Key's Adam-12 book is finally on the schedule. Legal hassles and negotiations caused the delays, but the book will be out by the end of 1973. John Warner is doing some of the scripting. It will be a straight police action mag.

Russ Heath is doing an 8-page story for National Lampoon entitled "Swamp Sluts." Russ' current assignments also include work for Cracked (the last job appeared in the Columbo issue) and an assignment for Eerie.

(c) 1973 Charlton Comics Group

Latest developments at Charlton include a new company symbol (the bulls' eye logo shown on the E-Man cover), and new titles featuring Sgt. Snorkle (of Beetle Bailey fame) and Yang, The Avenger.

Yang The Avenger is a kung fu-type character whose mag premieres in August. Scripting will be by Joe Gill, whose stories make up the bulk of Charlton's.

A new war title is also on the drawing boards, but no details on that one.

UNDERGROUND comix

A number of new comix titles were announced and cover-previewed in the program book of the Berkeley Comic Con, April 20- 22, 1973.

One of the new books, which may be released shortly from the Print Mint, is Occult Laff Parade, with work by Jay Kinney, Ned Sonntag, Justin Green, Larry Todd, and Tom Deitch.

Deitch, who manned a booth at the comics con, announced that he is 11 pages into a new solo book, his first alone since Corn Fed last year, and the book is not yet titled. Kim tells us that he has several other stories kicking around which may yet see print, including a few with his legendary cat character.

Copies of Corn Fed, autographed by artist Kim Deitch and writer Fowlton Means, may now be ordered for 50¢ plus 15¢ postage and handling direct from Deitch's Corn Fed Comics, 1890 Arch Apt. 205, Berkeley, California. (Quantity rates for dealers on request.)

A number of new books premiered at the Con, among them Barbarian Comics #2 (Bob Sidebottom, publisher) and Myron Moose Funnies #2 (Bob Foster, Vince Davis, artists).

Myron #2 is the first underground comic (or any comic, so far as I know) to feature a genuine foldout centerfold featuring Myron Moose as a Playmate pin-up girl. Besides picking his nose and just standing there, Myron goes through a number of other changes, including Myron of the Apes, Little Myron in Slumberland (in the style of Windsor McCay), Myron and the Pirates (after Milton Caniff) plus a page of money-grubbing Myron premiums that aren't really for real. It's 50¢ from Myron Moose Comic Works, P.O. Box 74313, Los Angeles, California 90004.

Barbarian #2 is the first underground with a metallic gold cover (#1 had a metallic silver one) and besides continuing the graphically mind-blowing "Sun and Steel" by Hale Han, it has four other shorter stories, including a samurai-barbarian story "Hameka" by Ron Harris and three others which may be taken for laughs. Barbarian is available from Comic Collector Shop, 73 East San Fernando, San Jose,California 95113 for 50¢.

New at the Convention were several books from Print Mint:

Softcore #1, by Michael J., Landeros and Shelby. Fun 'n games with the Bang Gang, Joe Fuggenstein, and two cutout pages of man and woman in action. (Adults only, please.)

Tales From the Tube #1, Rick Griffin's first comic in a while. Much of it was first published in Super magazine, including a two-page center color mini-poster of Murphy, one of Rick's famous strips. Robert Crumb, Jim Evans, and S. Clay Wilson are among the other contributors.

Fifth Anniversary Edition of the Original Yellow Dog underground comix newspapers, #1-12, in two colors on good newspaper stock. It was first published in 1969, with Crumb, Robert Williams, Wilson, Moscoso, Griffin, Osborne, Shelton, John Thompson, Lynch, Bode, Trina, Welz, and others. This item is available by mail from The Print Mint, 830 Folger Ave., Berkeley, California 94710, for $3.75, including postage and handling.

Softcore and Tales from the Tube are 50¢ each, also available from Print Mint.

New from Last Gasp:

Slow Death #5, with a handsome Rand Holmes cover and story in the old Wood/EC science-fiction style. There's also, among other things, an eight page story by Corben, "Melton's Big Game", and a seven page s-f horror story, "Recycled" by Charles Dallas. Slow Death #5 sells for 50¢.

Dr. Atomic #2, by Larry Todd. This is a 33 page story. 50¢.

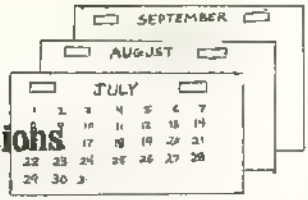
Spasm, by Jeff Jones. This book has beautiful graphics and a few short mind-boggling stories in a solo comic by the noted s-f illustrator.

Big League Laffs (All New Underground Comix #4). Jim Himes, creator of the Animal Pikchurs coloring book for mature children, does the first all-funny sports comix featuring people and animals. "Big League Rookie", "Tall Story", (basketball), and "Derby Disaster" (roller derby) are among some of the features. 50¢.

Two-Fisted Zombies (All New Underground Comix #5). Artist Rick Veitch and writer Tom Veitch get together to do an EC-style-Steranko-ish horror/s-f trip in which "the dead shall inherit the earth." It's a bit grisly, but there are plenty of fine graphics and much good story to make up for it. 50¢.

NOTE: All the books mentioned thus far, except for the autographed Corn Fed from Kim Deitch, and the Yellow Dog newspaper reprints available solely from Print Mint, may also be ordered by mail from Comic Collector Shop, 73 East San Fernando, San Jose, California 95113. On orders under $3.00, add a nickel per book postage and handling. For orders over $3.00, they pay the postage. Orders must be accompanied by a signed statement certifying that you are over 18.

ET AL



Conventions

June 21-24...HOUSTONCON 73. Admission is $7.50 and it's being held at the Marriott Motor Hotel, 2100 S. Braeswood, Houston, Texas 77025.

June 28-July 1...D-CON 73. Admission is $7.50 and it's being held at the Sheraton-Dallas, Southland Center, Dallas, Texas 75067.

August 15-19...SAN DIEGO CON. Details just in: Guests include Adams, Kirby, Infantino, Bradbury, van Vogt. Films, events, art show, dealers room, etc. More details in the next issue. Membership: $5 in advance, $7.50 at the door. Con being held at the Sheraton-Inn Airport on Harbor Island. Details: write San Diego's Comic Convention, POBox 17066, San Diego, Calif 92117. Send 25¢ for info and first progress report.

The media gave fantastic publicity recently to the $1,800 sale of a copy of Action Comics #1. The purchaser was Mitchell Mehdy of Sacramento.

The Phil Seuling case remains unresolved as this issue goes to print. The hearings are over, and the trial is set for late June.

New releases department: THE COLLECTOR #27 is out. Includes Duffy's Tavern on the ERBurroughs books at DC, other Burroughs features, Gray Morrow interview, Ditko and Pinkowski strips, Newton art, other features. Color cover.

COMIC CRUSADER #14. A special magic issue with articles on Ibis, Mr. Mystic, a Fredricks interview, art by Kirby, strip by Ditko, art by Steranko, more.

ETCETERA #3, go read the ad!

CREATION has been scheduled for January 4th through 6th. There was no space available at Thanksgiving time this year, but the con will revert back to that schedule next year.

I have seen the Computerized Marvel Index that I mentioned a couple of issues back, and can recommend it highly as a reference work. There were one or two things in the format that I would have done differently, but all in all the volume is excellent and certainly a complete guide to the super-hero material. No Night Nurse listing, though!

FOURTH-WORLD NUTS

EAST COAST COMIX DEPT:

Crypt Of Terror #1 is out, and by the time you read this Weird Science #15 should be ready. The following titles represent the rest of the books that are on their current production schedule:

Shock Suspenstories #12
Haunt of Fear #12
Weird Fantasy #15
Crime Suspenstories #25
Vault Of Horror #30
Shock Suspenstories #6
Two Fisted Tales #35 (the Civil War issue)

These will be realesed one every four to eight weeks.

Mark Evanier reports that High Adventure #1 will be available from Krupp Comix Works. HA is a science fiction/sword & sorcery underground being edited by Evanier and illustrated by the likes of Robert Kline, Stephen Leialoha, John Pound, and Mike Royer. The exact date of release is unknown.

The Bran Mak Morn underground is still "in progress."

Omissions Dept: I mentioned the Gazette Extras last issue and the new Menomonee Falls Guardian, but I forgot the address. Here goes: Post Office Box 255, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051.

Comic Media #10 is scheduled for July release in England, and should be available here at the end of the summer. I believe contents will include Modesty Blaise and Cisco Kid material.

COULTON WAUGH, 77, author of "The Comics" (Macmillan, 1947) and the cartoonist who took over Dickie Dare from Caniff, died in Newburgh, New York on May 26th.

The fifth issue of Infinity is scheduled for release at July Con. Material includes a Maroto collection and a Brunner strip. Price is $3 from the publishers, Gary Berman and Adam Malin.

PRETTY PICTURES DEPT:

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BY CARL GAFFORD

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Happy confusion! If you've read thru this issue and think you understand everything that's going on, you're probably the most intelligent guy I know.

Back to editorial-type nonsense. Reader Steve Leavell chided me for using color covers instead of adding more pages. Let's clear this up with some simple economics:
a) next issue's cover cost is around $60 above and beyond the cost of a black & white cover.
b) to add four pages (the minimum possible) to this issue would have cost about $185, or three times that amount! That's because the issue would require an additional stamp.
Space being as tight as it obviously is, I'd love to add about 8 or 12 pages, but that would raise the price of an issue at least 10 or 15¢. Okay?

Next problem. To clarify all the "Paul Levitz is now working at DC" statements, I've been writing some text & letters pages for DC since January, if you consult page 4 of #93, you'll notice that I told everyone about it long ago (hey, that's another scoop for TCR!). The only staff (or punch-the-clock) type work I'll be doing is when I fill-in for Mike Pleisher this summer while he takes a protracted vacation. I have no desire to make a career for myself in this industry, so don't worry about my "pro" work hurting TCR. It's just a way to help pay my college tuition.

The new cover price I explained last month, so I won't repeat myself. I had said that your labels would be adjusted to consider 100 as a double issue, but that kind of fell through due to a lack of bookkeeping time. Next month, he said with a laugh in his voice!

The cover: Jim Salacrup does a lot of undefined work for Marvel (like crossword puzzles and the like) and contributes his version of the crowded and confused Marvel universe. All characters are (c) 1973 Marvel Comics Group.

Next issue dept: In a fit of insanity I'm promising to have #99 in the mails by the beginning of July Con, probably on June 30th. #99 will have a color cover by Simonson, postponed from this issue.

Success dept. Everyone notice that our print run is now 3,000? While I'm on the subject of quantity, how about a big round of applause for collators Liam O'Connor, Bob McWalters, Mr. X, Carl Gafford, Jerry Berger (welcome home!), Ed Manley and Kupperberg and Gilary.

On the subject of #100, your guess is probably as good as mine. I'm not starting serious work on it until after July Con.

In closing, I hope to see all of you at the annual New York Comic Art Convention next month, and I also hope you'll all give me your suggestions about TCR, Etcetera, #100, and new projects. See you there!

ACBA Presents 1972 Shazam Awards

On May 29th, 1973 the Academy Of The Comic Book Arts held their third annual awards dinner, and gave out the following awards for 1972's best stories and creative talents:

DRAMATIC DIVISION
Writer...Len Wein
Penciller...Berni Wrightson
Inker...(tie) Tom Palmer
John Severin

HUMOR DIVISION
Writer...Marv Wolfman
Penciller...Marie Severin
Inker...Sergio Aragones

GENERAL DIVISION
Letterer...John Costanza
Colorist...Marie Severin
Foreign Artist...Giro (of Lt. Blueberry)
Outstanding New Talent... Mike Ploog

Superior Achievement by an Individual... Julie Schwartz

Special Recognition... Menomonee Falls Gazette

Hall Of Fame... Harvey Kurtzman

progress report 2

As usual, the gang from TCR will be running the fanzine sales table at the New York Comic Art Convention. If you wish to have your fanzine sold at the Con, merely send us copies (a recommended number is 25) and a service charge of $5.00. Please have your fanzines in to us by no later than July 1.

If you've been reading the Behind the Scenes in the recent DC comics you will already know about National's Apprentice Program. If not, here are the details: The people at DC are taking a room where portfolios and scripts will be looked over by Sol Harrison (National's Production Manager), and many of the editors and staffers from the company. They will also conduct workshops, open to all those who wish to attend.

Marvel will have a hospitality room.

Guests of Honor this year are C.C. Beck, Burne Hogarth, Bob Kane, Russell Myers (who did the cover of our Program Book), Bill Gaines and the crew from Mad, and Russ Heath.

Bob Kane, the creator of Batman, will make the Keynote Speech on the opening day of the Convention. Other events planned for the five days of the Con include a Broom-Hilda Slide Show, narrated by Russ Myers, a Carl Barks Slide Show, narrated by Tony Sanguino, an interview with Jim Steranko, C.C. Beck and Captain Marvel, The Vaughn Bode Cartoon Concert, a Costume Parade, Bill Gaines on Not Far From The Madding Crowd, a panel on Teaching A Course On Comic Books, a comic book writers panel, The Law and Underground Comics, and about a dozen other events and panels!

The gigantic Dealers Room opens each of the five days at 10:00 am and closes at 7:00 Wednesday through Saturday, and 6:00 on Sunday.

Exhibits this year are: C.C. Beck's Astonishing Artificial Arsenal, Jeff Jones: Moods of Melancholy, Fancies of Joy, Mac Raboy: Retrospective For a Comic Art Craftsman, and Mike Kaluta: Portraits by the Artist as a Young Man.

Films will be shown Wednesday through Saturday night from 8:00 pm to 3:00 am.

Membership to the Con is $7 for a regular membership, which covers all five days and all activities. Daily membership is available only at the door at $2.50 a day. Supporting membership is $2.50, for which you receive our beautiful 100 page Souvenir Program Book and all the other material in the Convention packet.

For further information write:

Phil Seuling
621 Avenue Z
Brooklyn, New York 11223.

STORIES & FEATURES DIVISION

Best full-length story: "Dark Genesis" from Swamp Thing #1, by Len Wein and Berni Wrightson.

Best short story: "The Demon Within" from House of Mystery #201, by Joe Orlando, John Albano and Jim Aparo.

Best humor story: "The Poster Plague" from House of Mystery #202, by Steve Skeates and Sergio Aragones.

Best Continuing Feature: Conan The Barbarian

A special plaque was also given to Gerda Gattel, National Comics' longtime proofreader. Gerda had not been a letterer during the existance of the Shazam Awards, and was shocked to receive an award for "bringing her warmth to our industry."

To all the award winners, congratulations from comic book fandom.

(Any fan interested in becoming a supporting member of ACBA, and receiving their newsletter, should send $5 to: ACBA, 9 East 48 Street, NY, NY 10017.

NOW

ETCETERA

3

A THIRD TOUR DE FORCE IS COMING YOUR WAY IN MID-JUNE FROM TCR PUBLICATIONS. BESIDES OUR REGULAR DYNAMIC DEPARTMENTS AND FEATURES (DUFFY'S TAVERN, JACH SPAKE, SHOT IN THE DARK, BREAK-DOWN, FANDOM FORUM, THE BOOKSHELF, TOM FAGAN, AND BOB PINAHA), WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL FEATURES:

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LANDAU AND FUCHS

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#2940 Side Two

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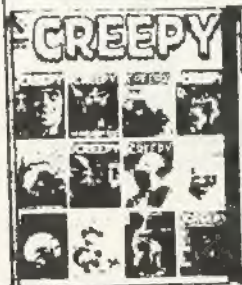

CREEPY #48 Cover Full-Color 20"x28" #2937 $2.00

FM #100 Cover Full Color 20"x28" #2941 $2.00

EERIE #46 Cover Full-Color 20"x28" #2939 $2.00

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